

ATTR Syntax: Attr filename [permissions] Usage : Examine or change the security permissions of a file Opts: -perm = turn off specified permission perm= turn on specified permission -a = inhibit s - no to own pw - Syntax one de single Basic0 filename CHD S specific

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directory to specified path CMP Syntax: Cmp filename1 filename2 Usage : File comparison utility COBBLER Syntax: Cobbler devname Usage : Creates OS-9 bootstrap file from current boot CONFIG Syntax: Config Usage: Create system boots and system disks COPY Syntax: Copy one file E Syntax : Opts: t = ame> Usage directory asters -m of unused only -o = <devname> t: Del [-x] s: -x = x: Deldir Syntax: Dir the file y x=print Usage :

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Display s converted characters to standard output DSAVE Syntax : Dsave [-opts] [dev] [pathname] Usage : Generates procedure file to copy all files in a directory system Opts : -b make a system disk by using OS9boot if present -b=<path> = make system disk using path as source ; = indent for directory levels 1 = do not process b makdir o num K standard oriented s text error messages for given error numbers EX Syntax: ex <modname> Usage: Chain to the given module FORMAT Syntax : Format <devname> Usage : Initializes an OS-9 diskette Opts ; R - Ready L - Logical format only "disk name" 1/2 number of sides 'No of

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AUSTRALIAN OS9 NEWSLETTER
Newsletter of the National OS9 User Group

EDITOR : Gordon Bentzen

HELPERS : Bob Devries and Don Berrie

SUPPORT : Brisbane OS9 Level 2 User Group.

Does OS-9 have a future? Or perhaps more appropriately the question should be, does OS-9 have a future in the personal computer world? If the enthusiasm of the dedicated OS-9ers is to have a significant bearing, then OS-9 will certainly have a future. The membership of our National User Group continues to grow and most members seem eager for new knowledge and equally eager to help others.

While OS-9 is supported by a number of computers, the Tandy Color Computer is the most commonly used by our membership. Whilst many CoCo owners may have been a little concerned by the decision of Intertan Australia to drop the CoCo, we have continued to source hardware and software from overseas. Many of us continue to upgrade our favourite CoCo in one way or another.

There is an almost endless supply of quality programs and utilities available from the the U.S. and our members here in Australia continue to develop new software for all sorts of applications. The reputable suppliers in the U.S. provide a very professional approach to every request. In this edition our own Rob Mackay has submitted some hints on placing orders from U.S. suppliers. (Thanks Rob.)

When Intertan Australia discontinued the Color Computer from the Australian product range, we heard that Tandy in the U.S. also had plans to drop the CoCo. We understand that it was dropped from their range in Canada a few months ago, and we have correspondence from Intertan which confirms that the Color Computer has now been dropped from the product line in the U.S. So there you have it, no more CoCo's from Tandy. Intertan Australia have advised that a listing of companies and individuals dealing in Color Computer hardware and software products is at present being prepared. They have made a note to send us a copy in due course.

We have seen mention of a new CoCo 4 through the U.S. OS-9 user group. An OS-9 computer produced, not by Tandy, but by the U.S. OS-9 User Group. Details of such a machine are unconfirmed at this stage. We can only hope that a CoCo 4 is something more tangible than a wish list item.

Do you use a hard disk? Up to now, I don't, but this is about to change. OS-9 is such a powerful and absolutely intriguing operating system that everybody seems to be making the investment (that's not what my wife would call it) in a hard disk system. It almost seems that if I don't go hard disk, I will soon be the only one in Australia running OS-9 from floppies. So, OS-9 is far from dead, even the CoCo 3 is far from dead.

In this edition, we present a submission from Jules Ambrosi which, as he describes, is a simple Database written in Basic09. Jules provided a disk with the source code and 'Docs' as well as a Packed version for us to trial. I have run his Database and must report that I find it very effective. (Thanks Jules.) This Basic09 program is well worth the effort it will take to type out the source code listing. Jules comments that when running from a floppy, you can expect a bit of a wait when using such things as "find" and "sort". I used this Database with the the file in a ramdisk, and in this mode it seems to run like a 'blur'.

I know that we make a lot of reference to the CoCo and present articles which are in many cases CoCo specific. We would like to include OS-9 articles for other systems as well, so how about sending us something about your favourite machine.

I will leave you to ponder the question of OS-9's future in the personal computer world and trust that you find something of interest in this month's edition.

Gordon Bentzen.

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A BASIC09 DATABASE PROGRAMME

The following programme and its accompanying description were sent to us by one of the more experienced members of the National User Group. We applaud his efforts, and his decision to share with all of us the fruits of his labours.

We feel obliged, however, to point out that the structured nature of Basic09 really cries out for MODULAR programming by the use of procedures. In Jules' programme, he makes considerable use of line numbers, and GOSUB's to those line numbers. This makes the programme fairly difficult to read, and extremely difficult to debug. The use of procedures would have certainly made the programme easier to understand, much easier to debug, and allow for easy future modifications and enhancements.

Having said all that, this programme really is a fine effort. It should show to all of us just what can be done with perseverance and patience.

Thank you Jules, on behalf of all of the members, for your efforts. Ed.

*** HELP for Database09 *** December 1989.

Database09 is a basic database manager for OS-9 systems. It requires Basic09, Runb, Del, and Copy. It should run on any OS-9 Level 2 system but don't hold me to that. It was written on a CoCo III with 30 meg Hard Drive. Your printer must be connected and turned on while using DataBase09. Records in Database09 have a fixed format, but this may be changed by altering the source code. You get 5 strings of 64 characters each, 200 records per file. Each string (item) has a title. Use the Create option to open a new file. Give it a filename, name each of the items, and decide how many records in the file.

Set the filename and printer path defaults with New filenames. A CR at the printer name input will default to '/P'. You can send printer output to a textfile by entering a filename here. Then you can include it in a word processor file. Use the View/Edit option to input data into the file. The prompts here are self-explanatory. You may edit the titles of the items by editing record #0 (zero) at any time.

Since a database may be several hundred records long, I included a Search for string function. Say you need to find a phone number in a mailing list, but can't remember the person's last name? Just type in the first name (get the capitals right!) or anything else you think is in their file. DataBase09 will search until it finds the first occurrence of the name anyplace in any item, in any record. Caution: be prepared for a wait in a long database! You can also print your findings, to create a mailing list of all your friends in a certain city, ect. A further note is that on my 30 meg hard drive, it does not take long to go through my big database, but on a floppy disk, be prepared for a wait. Sorry about that, but OS9 needs a hard drive.

You may wish to sort your data alphabetically. You can do this, too, and sort on any item. Two cautions here: the sort is limited to the first 10 characters of the item sorted on. Also, say you have two 'Smith, John' records, with different addresses. They will be sorted so one is after the other, but in the SAME order they were in the original, unsorted file.

DataBase09 was written out of necessity in about 4 hours, with another 4 hours of adding bells & whistles. I needed a way to keep track of all the people name and address for my BBS's list. I will not be constantly updating this program for new features, so if you want improvements, write to me. I'd appreciate it, if you would continue to give me credit for my effort by leaving my name intact in the source code. Thanks, and enjoy!

Address all questions and queries to:- Jules Ambrosi
P.O. Box 341,
Middrie, 3042.

Notes about Version 2.0 to those who had version 1. Not too much has changed. A search function has been added to the View/Edit section, so you need not leave this part just to search for a new record. The old search function has been retained as Find and Print, which is what it does best anyway. It can print all records with the target text, ect.

```
PROCEDURE DataBase09
0000 REM * DataBase OS9 version 2.0
0010 REM * by Jules Ambrosi
0032 REM * With thanks to S. Robertson for
      \so much help
0063 REM * A simple database for OS-9
      \ Level 2
0088 REM * Look for the text help file
      \called Database09.doc
00C1 ON ERROR GOTO 340
00C7 TYPE file=one:STRING[64];
      \two:STRING[64];three:STRING[64];
      \four:STRING[64]; five:STRING[64]
0103 DIM rec:file
010C TYPE index=name:STRING[10];
      \rnum:INTEGER
0122 DIM sort(200):index
0130 DIM temp$:index
0139 DIM cmp:STRING[10]
0145 DIM pass,j,top,bot,a,x,num,recnum,
```

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\recsize:INTEGER
016C DIM interchange:BOOLEAN
0173 DIM title(5):STRING[64]
0184 DIM field(5):STRING[64]
0195 DIM prnt(5):STRING[1]
01A6 DIM path,output:BYTE
01B1 DIM a$,cls,ti$,prt$:STRING[1]
01C9 recsize=SIZE(rec)
01D3 cls=CHR$(12)
01D8 path=4
01E2 output=5
01E9 out$="/P"
01F2 REM FILES QUESTION
0203 10 GOSUB 280
020A PRINT "      <N>ew file"
021F PRINT "      <O>ld file"
0234 PRINT
0236 PRINT "      Choice? ";
0248 GET #0,a$
0254 PRINT
0256 IF a$="N" OR a$="n" THEN 220
026E PRINT
0270 INPUT "Filename? ",fl$
0282 REM MAIN MENU
028E 100 GOSUB 280
0295 PRINT "      <V>iew/Edit records"
02B2 PRINT "      <N>ew filenames"
02CB PRINT "      <F>ind and Print"
02E5 PRINT "      <S>ort database"
02FE PRINT "      <P>rint database"
0318 PRINT "      <C>reate new database"
0337 PRINT "      <O>S-9 Shell Commands"
0356 PRINT "      <Q>uit"
0366 PRINT
0368 PRINT "      Choice ? >";
037D GET #0,a$
0386 q$="NVFSPCOQnvfspcoq"
039D FOR x=1 TO LEN(q$)
03AF IF a$=MID$(q$,x,1) THEN 110
03C5 NEXT x
03D0 GOTO 100
03D4 110 ON x GOTO 120,150,230,260,200,220,140,
\130,120,150,230,260,200,220,140,130
041E 120 GOSUB 280
0425 PRINT "Set your input and output
\filenames."
044D PRINT
044F INPUT "Input filename? ",fl$
0467 IF fl$="" THEN
0473 PRINT "You must enter a filename."
0491 PRINT "Press ENTER ";
04A2 GET #0,a$
04AB GOTO 120
04AF ENDIF
04B1 PRINT "Enter pathname of printer(i.e.
\'/P' or"
04DB INPUT "output textfile:( i.e. filename
\ ",out$
0503 IF out$="" THEN out$="/p"
0517 ENDIF
0519 GOTO 100
051D 130 GOSUB 280
0524 REM QUIT PROGRAM
0533 REM Open overlay window
0549 135 SHELL "display 1b 3d 01"
0560 SHELL "display 1b 22 01 c 8 30 B 02 00
\00"
0586 REM Choose options *
0599 PRINT
059B PRINT "      Enter <1> to shell to OS9"
05BD PRINT
05BF PRINT "      Enter <2> to restart

```

```

\program"
05E4 PRINT
05E6 PRINT "      Enter <3> to quit"
0600 PRINT
0602 PRINT "      ";
060B INPUT Z
0610 REM Close overlay window
0627 SHELL "display 1b 23"
0638 SHELL "display 1b 3d 00"
064C ON Z GOTO 140,10,136
0660 136 PRINT "Sure you want to Quit (Y/N)? ";
0685 GET #0,a$
068E PRINT
0690 IF a$="Y" OR a$="y" THEN
06A5 PRINT cls;
06AB 137 END
06B0 ENDIF
06B2 GOTO 100
06B6 140 PRINT cls; "Shell commands"
06CF PRINT
06D1 INPUT "OS9>:",sh$
06DE IF sh$="" THEN 100
06ED SHELL sh$
06F2 PRINT
06F4 PRINT "Completed. Press ENTER ";
0710 GET #0,a$
0719 GOTO 100
071D 150 GOSUB 280
0724 PRINT "View, Edit, or Search records"
0745 PRINT
0747 PRINT "Working";
0753 ot$=""
075A IF out$<>"/p" AND out$<>"/P" AND
\ out$<>"/P1" THEN
077B CREATE #output,out$
0785 ot$="FILE"
0790 ENDIF
0792 recnum=0
0799 OPEN #path,fl$
07A3 SEEK #path,0
07AC GET #path,rec
07B6 GOSUB 290
07BA WHILE NOT(EOF(#path)) DO
07C5 PRINT ".";
07CB GET #path,rec
07D5 IF rec.one=" " THEN 160
07E8 recnum=recnum+1
07F3 SEEK #path,recnum*recsize
0801 ENDWHILE
0805 160 top=recnum-1
0813 recnum=1
081A SEEK #path,recnum*recsize
0828 WHILE NOT(EOF(#path)) DO
0833 GET #path,rec
083D IF recnum=0 THEN
0849 GOSUB 290
084D ENDIF
084F GOSUB 300
0853 GOSUB 330
0857 PRINT "<N>ext, <B>ack, <P>rint,"
0873 PRINT "<G>oto, <L>ast, <F>irst,"
088F PRINT "<E>dit, <Q>uit, <S>earch: ";
08AE GET #0,a$
08B7 PRINT
08B9 IF a$="Q" OR a$="q" THEN 190
08D1 IF a$="S" OR a$="s" THEN
08E6 oldrec=recnum
08EF GOSUB 330
08F3 INPUT "Text to search for: ",find$
090F PRINT "Working";
091B FOR recnum=1 TO top

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092C      PRINT ".";
0932      SEEK #path,recnum*recsize
0940      GET #path,rec
094A      GOSUB 300
094E      FOR i=1 TO 5
0960          IF SUBSTR(find$,field(i))<>0
\THEN 180
0977      NEXT i
0982      NEXT recnum
098D      recnum=oldrec
0996      PRINT
0998      PRINT "Not found. Press ENTER ";
09B4      GET #0,a$
09B8      ENDIF
09BF      IF a$="P" OR a$="p" THEN
09D4          IF ot$="FILE" THEN
09E4              GOSUB 320
09E8          ELSE
09EC              OPEN #output,out$:WRITE
09F8              GOSUB 320
09FC              CLOSE #output
0A02          ENDIF
0A04      ENDIF
0A06      IF a$="N" OR a$="n" THEN
0A1B          recnum=recnum+1
0A26      ENDIF
0A28      IF a$="B" OR a$="b" THEN
0A3D          recnum=recnum-1
0A48      ENDIF
0A4A      IF a$="F" OR a$="f" THEN
0A5F          recnum=1
0A66      ENDIF
0A68      IF a$="L" OR a$="l" THEN
0A7D          recnum=top
0A85      ENDIF
0A87      IF a$="G" OR a$="g" THEN
0A9C          INPUT "Goto Record #",recnum
0AB1      ENDIF
0AB3      IF a$="E" OR a$="e" THEN
0AC8 170      GOSUB 330
0ACF          PRINT "Edit which field (Q=Quit)?
\";
0AEF          GET #0,a$
0AF8          PRINT
0AFA          IF a$="Q" OR a$="q" THEN
0B0F              GOSUB 310
0B13              SEEK #path,recnum*recsize
0B21              PUT #path,rec
0B2B              GOTO 180
0B2F          ENDIF
0B31          ac=ASC(a$)
0B3B          IF ac>53 OR ac<49 THEN 170
0B53          a=VAL(a$)
0B5D          PRINT cls; "Make changes. ENTER=No
\change."
0B83          PRINT
0B85          PRINT a; " "; title(a)
0B95          PRINT field(a)
0B9D          READ #0,b$
0BA6          IF b$="" THEN 170
0BB5          field(a)=b$.
0BC1          GOTO 170
0BC5      ENDIF
0BC7 180      SEEK #path,recnum*recsize
0BD8      ENDWHILE
0BDC 190      CLOSE #path
0BE5      IF ot$="FILE" THEN
0BF5          CLOSE #output
0BF8      ENDIF
0BFD      GOTO 100
0C01 200      GOSUB 280
0C08      PRINT "Print records in "; fl$; "."

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```

0C27      PRINT
0C29      PRINT "Print titles (Y/N)? ";
0C42      GET #0,ti$
0C48      PRINT
0C4D      IF ti$="" THEN 100
0C5C      INPUT "Starting record? ",start
0C75      INPUT " Ending record? ",ender
0C8E      IF ti$<>"Y" AND ti$<>"y" THEN
0CA3          FOR x=1 TO 5
0CB3              PRINT " Print field "; x; "? ";
0CD0              GET #0,prnt(x)
0CDD              PRINT
0CDF          NEXT x
0CEA      ENDIF
0CEC      IF out$="/p" OR out$="/P" OR
\out$="/P1" THEN
0D0D          OPEN #output,out$:WRITE
0D19      ELSE
0D1D          CREATE #output,out$
0D27      ENDIF
0D29      PRINT "Working..."
0D37      OPEN #path,fl$
0D41      SEEK #path,0
0D4A      GET #path,rec
0D54      GOSUB 290
0D58      FOR recnum=start TO ender
0D6C          SEEK #path,recnum*recsize
0D7A          IF EOF(#path) THEN 210
0D87          GET #path,rec
0D91          IF rec.one="" THEN 210
0DA4          GOSUB 300
0DA8          IF ti$="Y" OR ti$="y" THEN
0DBD              WRITE #output,"RECORD #"; recnum
0DD2          ENDIF
0DD4          FOR num=1 TO 5
0DE4              IF ti$="Y" OR ti$="y" THEN
0DF9                  WRITE #output,title(num); " ";
\field(num)
0E11              ELSE
0E15                  IF prnt(num)="Y" OR
\prnt(num)="y" THEN
0E3D                      WRITE #output,field(num)
0E3D                  ENDIF
0E3F                  ENDIF
0E41              NEXT num
0E4C              WRITE #output," "
0E56          NEXT recnum
0E61 210      CLOSE #output
0E6A          CLOSE #path
0E7D          GOTO 100
0E7A 220      GOSUB 280
0E7B          PRINT "Create a new file."
0E91          PRINT
0E93          INPUT "Filename? ",fl$
0EA5          IF fl$="" THEN 100
0EB4          PRINT "Enter titles for the 5 fields."
0ED6          INPUT "Field 1? ",rec.one
0EEB          INPUT "Field 2? ",rec.two
0F00          INPUT "Field 3? ",rec.three
0F15          INPUT "Field 4? ",rec.four
0F2A          INPUT "Field 5? ",rec.five
0F3F          INPUT "How many records (200 max)?
\",num
0F63          CREATE #path,fl$:UPDATE
0F6F          PRINT "Working";
0F7B          SEEK #path,0
0F84          PUT #path,rec
0F8E          rec.one=""
0F9A          rec.two=""
0FA6          rec.three=""
0FB2          rec.four=""
0FBE          rec.five=""

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0FCA    FOR sk=1 TO num
0FDD    PRINT ".";
0FE3    SEEK #path,sk*recsize
0FF2    PUT #path,rec
0FFC    NEXT sk
1007    CLOSE #path
100D    GOTO 100
1011 230 GOSUB 280
1018    PRINT "Find records and print."
1033    PRINT
1035    INPUT "Text to find: ",find$
104B    IF find$="" THEN 100
105A    PRINT "Print fields that have it
        \ (Y/N)? ";
1080    GET #0,prt$
1089    PRINT
108B    IF prt$="Y" OR prt$="y" THEN
10A0        PRINT "Print titles (Y/N)? ";
10B9        GET #0,ti$
10C2        PRINT
10C4        prt$="Y"
10CC        IF out$="/p" OR out$="/P" OR
        \ out$="/P1" THEN
10ED            OPEN #output,out$:WRITE
10F9            ELSE
10FD                CREATE #output,out$
1107            ENDIF
1109        ENDIF
110B        recnum=0
1112        OPEN #path,fl$
111C        PRINT "Working";
1128        SEEK #path,recnum
1132        WHILE NOT(EOF(#path)) DO
113D            PRINT ".";
1143            GET #path,rec
114D            IF rec.one=" " THEN 240
1160            IF recnum=0 THEN
116C                GOSUB 290
1170            ENDIF
1172            GOSUB 300
1176            GOSUB 250
117A            recnum=recnum+1
1185            SEEK #path,recnum*recsize
1193        ENDWHILE
1197 240 CLOSE #path
11A0    PRINT
11A2    IF prt$="Y" THEN
11AF        CLOSE #output
11B5        PRINT "Done. Press ENTER";
11CB    ELSE
11CF        PRINT "Not found. Press ENTER";
11EA    ENDIF
11EC    GET #0,a$
11F5    GOTO 100
11F9 250 FOR i=1 TO 5
120E        IF SUBSTR(find$,field(i))<>0 THEN
1222            IF prt$="Y" THEN
122F                IF ti$="Y" OR ti$="y" THEN
1244                    GOSUB 320
1248                ELSE
124C                    FOR x=1 TO 5
125C                        WRITE #output,field(x)
1269                    NEXT x
1274                    WRITE #output,""
127D                ENDIF
127F            ELSE
1283                GOSUB 330
1287                PRINT
1289                PRINT "Is this it (Y/N)? ";
12A0                GET #0,a$
12A9                PRINT
12AB                IF a$="Y" OR a$="y" THEN
12C0                    CLOSE #path
12C6                    PRINT "Press ENTER when done.
        \ ";
12E2                    GET #0,a$
12EB                    GOTO 100
12EF                ENDIF
12F1                    PRINT "Working";
12FD                ENDIF
12FF                ENDIF
1301            NEXT i
130C            RETURN
130E 260 GOSUB 280
1315            PRINT "Sort ' '; fl$; ""
        \ alphabetically."
1337            PRINT
1339            PRINT "Sort on which field (1-5)? ";
1359            GET #0,a$
1362            itm=VAL(a$)
136B            fl2$=fl$+"_BAK"
137A            PRINT
137C            PRINT "Making unsorted backup file: ";
        \ fl2$
13A1            sh$="copy "+fl$+" "+fl2$
13B9            del$="del "+fl$+"_BAK"
13CF            SHELL del$
13D4            SHELL sh$
13D9            PRINT "Loading file."
13EA            OPEN #path,fl$
13F4            GET #path,rec
13FE            GOSUB 290
1402            recnum=1
1409            SEEK #path,recsize
1413            WHILE NOT(EOF(#path)) DO
141E                GET #path,rec
1428                IF rec.one=" " THEN 270
143B                GOSUB 300
143F                sort(recnum).name=field(itm)
1452                sort(recnum).rnum=recnum
1461                recnum=recnum+1
146C                SEEK #path,recnum*recsize
147A            ENDWHILE
147E 270 CLOSE #path
1487            bot=1
148E            top=recnum-1
1499            interchange:=TRUE
149F            pass=1
14A6            PRINT "Sorting file."
14B7            WHILE pass<=top-1 AND interchange DO
14CB                interchange:=FALSE
14D1                FOR j=1 TO top-pass
14E6                    IF sort(j).name>sort(j+1).name
        \ THEN
1502                        interchange=TRUE
1508                        temp$=sort(j)
1513                        sort(j)=sort(j+1)
1525                        sort(j+1)=temp$
1534                    ENDIF
1536                NEXT j
1541                pass=pass+1
154C            ENDWHILE
1550            PRINT "Writing sorted file: "; fl$
156D            OPEN #output,fl$
1577            recnum=1
157E            SEEK #output,recsize
1588            OPEN #path,fl2$
1592            FOR idx=1 TO top
15A5                SEEK #path,sort(idx).rnum*recsize
15BA                GET #path,rec
15C4                PUT #output,rec
15CE                recnum=recnum+1
15D9                SEEK #output,recnum*recsize
15E7            NEXT idx

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15F2      CLOSE #output
15F8      CLOSE #path
15FE      PRINT
1600      PRINT "Delete backup copy (Y/N)? ";
161F      GET #0,a$
1628      PRINT
162A      IF a$="Y" OR a$="y" THEN
163F          sh$="del "+fl2$
164E          SHELL sh$
1653      ENDIF
1655      PRINT "Done, press ENTER";
1668      GET #0,a$
1674      GOTO 100
1678 280   PRINT cls; "      *** DataBase 09 ***
          \"
16A1      PRINT "      by Jules Ambrosi      "
16C1      PRINT
16C3      recnum=0
16CA      RETURN
16CC 290   title(1)=rec.one
16DD      title(2)=rec.two
16EB      title(3)=rec.three
16F9      title(4)=rec.four
1707      title(5)=rec.five
1715      RETURN
1717 300   field(1)=rec.one
1728      field(2)=rec.two
1736      field(3)=rec.three
1744      field(4)=rec.four
1752      field(5)=rec.five
1760      RETURN

1762 310   rec.one=field(1)
1773      rec.two=field(2)
1781      rec.three=field(3)
178F      rec.four=field(4)
179D      rec.five=field(5)
17AB      RETURN
17AD 320   WRITE #output,"FILE: "; fl$; " **
          \RECORD #"; recnum
17D6      FOR x=1 TO 5
17E6          WRITE #output,title(x); " ";
          \field(x)
17FE      NEXT x
1809      WRITE #output,""
1812      RETURN
1814 330   PRINT cls; "Record #"; recnum
1828      FOR d=1 TO 5
183D          PRINT d; " "; title(d); " ";
          \field(d)
185A      NEXT d
1865      PRINT
1867      RETURN
1869 340   eror=ERR
1873      PRINT
1875      PRINT "Error #"; eror
1884      IF eror=246 THEN
1891          PRINT "Turn your printer on."
18AA      ENDIF
18AC      PRINT "Press ENTER";
18BC      GET #0,a$
18C5      GOTO 100

```

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SHELLSCRIPTS WITH BELLS AND WHISTLES

Well, I think it's finally time that we came really to grips with all of the features of both the Windint windowing system, and all of the goodies that go with Shellplus 2.x.

One of my pet hates about any computing system, and the programmes written for it, is the tendency for programmers to write code for specific applications, and system environment setups. I guess that some of that criticism should be even levelled at the following shellscript, as it assumes a number of things about your system. (More of that later.)

I use my computer for a number of different activities. These include programming, letter writing, hacking, writing articles for this newsletter, and yes, even occasionally playing games. I spend a great deal of my time at the keyboard, and consequently I decided to purchase a hard drive to eliminate the constant need for swapping disks. For some time, it seemed that all I had done was to swap from one problem to another. Because now I think I am getting RSI from typing long directory names.

You see, the complexity of my hard drive has increased to the stage where I have some 120 directories containing more than 1000 separate files. I take pride in the fact that my hard disk is well structured, and I maintain a regular backup schedule. I always delete any temporary files, and in general try to keep my system tidy.

An unfortunate side effect of this is that I now have got to the stage of having some very long pathnames that lead to particular programmes that I frequently use. One of these is the Stylograph (C) wordprocessing system.

I get quite sick of typing lines that look like :

```

chd /H0/USR/STYLO/DOCS
chx /H0/USR/STYLO/CHDS

```

So I decided to do something about it and in doing so, I decided that I should try to use some of the features of both shellplus, and our great little system.

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The structure of my hard disk looks (in part) like this :

```

/H0 ---OS9Boot
|
|--CMDS
|
|--USR--
|
|   |--CCOMP-----
|   |
|   |--STYLO--
|   |
|   |   |--CMDS
|   |   |
|   |   |--STY
|   |   |
|   |   |--DOCS
|   |
|   |--PASC-----
|   |
|   .
|
|--SYS
|
.
.
.

```

.... and this leads to the problem of long directory names.

But first of all, lets take a look at the source code for the shellsript.

```

* Shellsript for starting an Editor
* in a Complex Directory Structure
*
* (C) D.A. Berrie 1990
*
*Start
load prompt
onerr goto erlp2
var.1="/d1/docs" ** Change this string to point
*                  to your document directory
display 1b 22 01 08 04 46 0f 02 02
display 1b 22 01 06 03 46 0f 05 07
display 1b 22 01 08 04 42 0d 02 00
display 1b 22 00 0a 05 3e 0b 02 00
tmode .1 pause pag=11
*loop1
dir %1
display a
display 1b 32 04
echo Type Full Directory Pathlist and press ENTER
echo or Type Filename and press ENTER to accept
display 1b 32 02
prompt:
var.1
if %1 > 0
cls
if -D %1
chd %1
goto loop1
endif
endif
*loop2
display 1b 23
display 1b 23
display 1b 23
display 1b 23
chx /d1/cmds ** Change this string to point to
*              your editor execution directory
path=/d0/cmds ** To allow for subshell access to
*              normal execution directory
          iniz w7
          display 1b 20 02 00 00 50 18 00 01 01 >/w7
          onerr goto erlp1
          iniz w7
          display 1b 21 >/w7
          display 05 20 >/w7
          display 1b 22 00 12 10 30 05 02 02 0c >/w7
          display 1b 22 00 10 0f 30 05 03 04 0c >/w7
          display 1b 22 00 12 10 2c 03 02 00 0c >/w7
          display 1b 22 00 14 11 28 01 02 00 0c >/w7
          prompt Edit File : %1 >/w7
          display 1b 23 >/w7
          display 1b 23 >/w7
          display 1b 23 >/w7
          display 1b 23 >/w7
          display 02 36 2c >/w7
          display 1f 24 >/w7
          echo PLEASE WAIT WHILE MODULES ARE LOADED >/w7
          display 1f 25 >/w7
          stylo %1 <>>>/w7 ** Insert your normal editor *
                           command filename
*erlp1
display 1b 21 >/1
display 1b 24 >/w7
deiniz w7
goto end
*erlp2
display 1b 23
display 1b 23
display 1b 23
display 1b 23
*end
unlink prompt
tmode .1 pause pag=24

```


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I guess that I had better try to give some explanation as to what exactly happens in this shellscrip, where changes might be made, and some of the 'idio(t)syncrasies' of both my programming and the system.

The first thing to note is that the system (I don't know which part) does not allow changing of the current device window (using the window select string: display 1b 21 >/WX) from a procedure file!!

If you type the command string manually (ie from your keyboard) it works fine. If you use calls to device window select routines from programmes written in higher level languages, they too work fine. If, however, you include the device window select command in a procedure file, it does not work. There is a way to get around this limitation however. The method is provided by the use of the data module feature of shellplus. You will, however, need to have access to the datamod utility, in order to change the textfile into a data module. This module, and the prompt utility mentioned in the next paragraph are public domain programmes, and are included with the latest shellplus archive. Because the datamod utility creates in memory data modules, you must load these packed shellscrip modules into memory in order to execute them.

You will need access, either in memory, execution directory or execution path, to the following executable programmes in order to successfully run this shellscrip.

load; prompt; display; tmode; dir; echo; cls; inix; deinix and unlink.

As the shellscrip stands, it is setup to run the stylograph wordprocessor, but it could be equally used to run Sled, Edit or perhaps even window writer using my "window tidy" Basic09 procedure.

The first thing that the script does is to load the prompt utility (must be in current execution directory), to speed up file selection prompt writing. Prompt is simply an echo facility, but without a <CR> at the end!

We then set the first error trap, and define variable.1 to a string representing the pathname to your document directory. Then we open a number of overlay windows to give the nifty shaded box effect. One thing that should be noted here is that I am assuming that the utility is run from an 80 column windint/grfint type window. It doesn't matter whether it is a graphics or text type window.

Then the page length is set to 11, to allow for the overlay window size, and an address marker for the start of a loop is incorporated. Then we do a dir of the directory that was set in variable.1 above. The following line, display a, simply writes a blank line. We then change the colour of the foreground, and display a message.

After printing a prompt, we ask for terminal input (the line is : var.1), and then check if the string entered is a directory. If it is a directory, we change to it, and return to loop1. If it is blank, or a filename (or anything else!) we proceed to loop2. The next four lines simply close the overlay windows.

You may set the strings referenced in the next two lines to suit your own system. After processing those two lines, the next sequence, display 1b 20 02 opens a device window using window descriptor W7 (in this case). You may change this to any available descriptor, however, it is important that, when you run your finished shellscrip, that the window is not already defined, nor should there be a shell running in it!! This is important. After this we reset the error trap, so that if an error occurs in the remainder of the shellscrip, we can close the device window, and deinix it before quitting.

We then initialize the window. Dependant on how your system is setup, the window may already be initialized. It does not matter if it already is inix, but if it's not, then we have to do this in order to successfully select it. And select it is exactly what we do on the very next line. After that, the new window should appear on the screen. The cursor is turned off, and we then open some further overlay windows on the new device window.

You will note that the lines read "display 1b 22 00 0c >/w7". The extra digit (0c) in these lines clears the window. In order for an overlay window to be displayed on a device window other than the one from which it was created, something actually needs to be written to it. The 0c accomplishes this. After these overlay windows are opened, we use the prompt command to write a message (without a <CR> at the end) so that it does not scroll off a one-line window, and then print the filename.

The next four display sequences then close the overlay windows. Because these windows do not save the screen underneath them, they appear to be left on the screen. Next we reposition the cursor, make the text flash, write another message, and then turn the flashing off. The next line is the line which actually calls the editor programme (stylo in this case) with the selected filename as an argument to it.

The remainder of the script simply handles shutdown and returns the system to it's original state.

If you have any problems or questions you can call me on (07) 375-3236. Cheers Don Berrie.

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DATA ON CALLS TO THE U.S.A. & CANADA. *****

Reverse Charge Calls dial 0101
Charge Rates ect dial 0102
Access Code 0011 1

Normal Rates \$1.70/minute
Off Peak Rates \$1.17/minute (Times as follows)

8.00pm to 6.00am Sunday to Friday
All day Saturday

Time Differences

Washington State 19 hours behind E.D.S.T.	AUST	U.S.A.
	3.00am	8.00am (previous day)
	6.00am	11.00am
	9.00am	2.00pm
	12.00am	5.00pm
New York 16 hours behind E.D.S.T.	AUST	U.S.A.
	12.00mn	8.00am (previous day)
	3.00am	11.00am
	6.00am	2.00pm
	9.00am	5.00pm
Quebec 18 hours behind E.D.S.T.	AUST	CANADA
	2.00am	8.00am (previous day)
	5.00am	11.00am
	8.00am	2.00pm
	11.00am	5.00pm
Arizona 17 hours behind E.D.S.T.	AUST	U.S.A.
	1.00am	8.00am (previous day)
	4.00am	11.00am
	7.00am	2.00pm
	10.00am	5.00pm

* NOTE:

The above are for AUST.Eastern daylight saving time. At the return of standard time the difference will INCREASE by ONE hour. This will mean that where a difference of 17 hours now exists, it will become 16 hours. A change from 7 hours to 8 hours time difference. Also, I understand that "Daylight Saving" is used throughout the U.S.A. & possibly Canada during their summer months, although I am not aware how extensively. For the exercise this would be an example.

Aust Daylight Saving. - Arizona is 17 hours behind us.
Aust Standard Time.(E.S.T.) - Arizona is 16 hours behind us.
Aust Standard Time.(E.S.T.) with U.S.A.or Canada on daylight saving then
- Arizona is 15 hours behind us.

Footnote.

During the last eight months I have phoned and faxed the U.S.A. and Canada more times than my wallet would have liked. For this reason I found that the above information as a hard copy, was most useful.

I hope this information may be of assistance to other OS-9'ers in their quest to search out or purchase from the extensive overseas market.

Last, but not least, the assistance provided by most suppliers has been superb. In some cases, only seven days from placing an order to delivery.

Regards, Rob MacKay.
(Brisbane Users Group)